

Reply to Office Action
Serial Number 10/692,967
Customer No.: 33354

AMENDED CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application.

What is claimed is:

1. (currently amended) A barrier system comprising:
 - a) means for cutting objects attempting to penetrate an opening; and
 - b) means for connecting the means for cutting in order to form a substantially planar barrier wherein the substantially planar barrier is operable in the plane between an extended condition whereby the planar barrier substantially covers the opening and a retracted condition whereby the planar barrier does not substantially cover the opening.
2. (original) The system according to claim 1 further comprising means for separating the means for cutting from its surroundings, so as to prevent accidental cutting of proximately moving objects.
3. (original) The system according to claim 2 wherein the means for separating is transparent.
4. (original) The system according to claim 1 wherein the barrier is substantially rectangular.
5. (currently amended) The system according to claim 1 further comprising means for retracting the substantially planar barrier. ~~The means for cutting.~~
6. (currently amended) The system according to claim ~~6~~ 5 further comprising means for compartmentalizing the means for retracting.
7. (original) The system according to claim 1 in which the means for connecting are such that the barrier is expandable and compressible.
8. (original) The system according to claim 1 wherein the means for cutting comprises barbed tape.
9. (original) The system according to claim 1 wherein the means for cutting comprises barbed wire.
10. (currently amended) A barrier system comprising:

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- a) a plurality of cutters connected to one another to form strips; and
 - b) a plurality of strips connected to each other to form a substantially planar barrier capable of covering an opening, wherein the substantially planar barrier is operable in the plane between an extended condition whereby the planar barrier substantially covers the opening and a retracted condition whereby the planar barrier does not substantially cover the opening.
- 11. (original) The system according to claim 10 further comprising at least one separator to separate the plurality of cutters from their surroundings, so as to prevent accidental cutting of proximately moving objects.
 - 12. (original) The system according to claim 10 wherein at least one separator is transparent.
 - 13. (original) The system according to claim 10 wherein the barrier is substantially rectangular.
 - 14. (original) The system according to claim 10 further comprising at least one retractor to retract the plurality of cutters.
 - 15. (original) The system according to claim 14 further comprising at least one compartment to compartmentalize at least one retractor.
 - 16. (original) The system according to claim 10 in which the plurality of strips are connected such that the barrier is expandable and compressible.
 - 17. (original) The system according to claim 10 wherein the plurality of cutters comprises barbed tape.
 - 18. (original) The system according to claim 17 wherein the barbed tape further comprises retainer barbs.
 - 19. (original) The system according to claim 10 wherein the plurality of cutters comprises barbed wire.
 - 20. (currently amended) A method of making a barrier system comprising the process of connecting a plurality of strips of barbed tape at spaced locations to form a barrier sheet that is substantially planar and capable of covering an opening, wherein the substantially planar barrier is operable in

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the plane between an extended condition whereby the planar barrier substantially covers the opening and a retracted condition whereby the planar barrier does not substantially cover the opening.